Xinya Du

Contact Assistant Professor

Department of Computer Science The University of Texas at Dallas

800 West Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75080

RESEARCH INTERESTS Natural Language Processing, Computational Linguistics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

Aug 2016 – Aug 2021

Email: xinya.du@utdallas.edu

Google Scholar

Website: https://xinyadu.github.io

Ph.D. in Computer Science (M.S. degree granted in Aug 2019)

Dissertation: Towards More Intelligent Extraction of Information from Documents

Advisor: Claire Cardie

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China

B.E. in Computer Science and Engineering

Sep 2012 – Aug 2016

EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX

Aug 2022 – Present

Sep 2021 - Aug 2022

Assistant Professor in Computer Science

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

Postdoctoral Research Associate, with Prof. Heng Ji

Google AI, Mountain View, CA

May 2020 - Aug 2020

Research Intern

Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Seattle, WA

Sep 2018 – Dec 2018

Research Intern

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

May 2018 – Aug 2018

Research Intern

Publications

[1] Retrieval-Augmented Generative Question Answering for Event Argument Extraction

Xinya Du and Heng Ji

In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2022.

[2] Dynamic Global Memory for Document-level Argument Extraction Xinya Du, Sha Li, and Heng Ji

In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2022.

[3] Automatic Error Analysis for Document-level Information Extraction Aliva Das, Xinya Du, Barry Wang, Kejian Shi, Jiayuan Gu, Thomas Porter, Claire Cardie In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2022.

[4] RESIN-11: Schema-guided Event Prediction for 11 Newsworthy Scenarios Xinya Du, Zixuan Zhang, Sha Li, Heng Ji and the RESIN team In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL): System Demonstrations, 2022.

[5] Template Filling with Generative Transformers Xinya Du, Alexander M. Rush, and Claire Cardie

In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2021.

[6] GRIT: Generative Role-filler Transformers for Document-level Event Entity Extraction

Xinya Du, Alexander M. Rush, and Claire Cardie In Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL), 2021.

- [7] Few-shot Intent Classification and Slot Filling with Retrieved Examples Dian Yu, Luheng He, Yuan Zhang, Xinya Du, Panupong Pasupat and Qi Li In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linquistics (NAACL), 2021.
- [8] QA-Driven Zero-shot Slot Filling with Weak Supervision Pretraining Xinya Du, Luheng He, Qi Li, Dian Yu, Panupong Pasupat and Yuan Zhang In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2021.
- [9] Event Extraction by Answering (Almost) Natural Questions Xinya Du and Claire Cardie In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2020.
- [10] Improving Event Duration Prediction via Time-aware Pre-training Zonglin Yang, Xinya Du, Alexander M. Rush and Claire Cardie In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (EMNLP), 2020.
- [11] Document-Level Event Role Filler Extraction using Multi-Granularity Contextualized Encoding

Xinya Du and Claire Cardie

In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2020.

[12] Leveraging Structured Metadata for Improving Question Answering on the Web

Xinya Du, Adam Fourney, Robert Sim, Claire Cardie, Paul Bennett and Ahmed Hassan Awadallah

In Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (AACL/IJCNLP), 2020.

[13] Be Consistent! Improving Procedural Text Comprehension using Label Consistency

Xinya Du, Bhavana Dalvi, Niket Tandon, Antoine Bosselut, Wen-tau Yih, Peter Clark, Claire Cardie

In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2019.

[14] Harvesting Paragraph-Level Question-Answer Pairs from Wikipedia Xinya Du and Claire Cardie

In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2018.

[15] Identifying Where to Focus in Reading Comprehension for Neural Question Generation

Xinya Du and Claire Cardie

In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2017.

[16] Learning to Ask: Neural Question Generation for Reading Comprehension Xinya Du, Junru Shao and Claire Cardie

In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2017.

Featured in New Scientist ("Inquisitive bot asks questions to test your understanding")

TechRepublic ("How researchers trained one AI system to start asking its own questions") [Link].

[17] Cornell Belief and Sentiment System at TAC 2016

Vlad Niculae, Kai Sun, Xilun Chen, Yao Cheng, **Xinya Du**, Esin Durmus, Arzoo Katiyar, Claire Cardie

In Text Analysis Conference (TAC), 2016.

Awards& Honors

Spotlight Rising Star in Data Science (NLP track) Top 100 New Stars in Artificial Intelligence Outstanding Graduate of SJTU National Scholarship

University of Chicago, 2020 Baidu Scholar, 2020 Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 2016 Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Natural Language Processing, Cornell University, Fall 2019 Teaching Assistant for Prof. Claire Cardie.

Natural Language Processing, Cornell University, Spring 2019 Teaching Assistant for Prof. Yoav Artzi.

Software Engineering, Cornell University, Spring 17, Spring 18 Teaching Assistant for Prof. William Arms.

Introduction to Computing Using Python, Cornell University, Fall 2016 Teaching Assistant for Prof. Walker White.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Zonglin Yang, Cornell CS MEng student, 2020 – 2022.

Topic: Commonsense and case-based reasoning for NLP.

Publications: EMNLP (Findings), 2020.

Barry Wang, Cornell CS undergraduate student, 2021 – 2022 Topic: Automatic error analysis for information extraction. Publications: ACL 2022, SciNLP 2021.

Aliva Das, Cornell CS undergraduate student, 2021 – 2022. Topic: Automatic error analysis for information extraction. Publications: ACL 2022, SciNLP 2021.

Maitreyi Chatterjee, Cornell CS undergraduate student, Spring 2021. Topic: Applying neural document-level IE model to scientific domain.

Rishi Malhotra, Cornell CS undergraduate student, Spring 2021.

Topic: Applying neural document-level IE model to scientific domain.

Professional Journal Reviewer:

SERVICES IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE)

IEEE Transactions on Audio, Speech and Language Processing (TASLP)

ACM Transactions on Asian and Low-Resource Language Information Processing (TAL-LIP)

ACM Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data (TKDD)

Knowledge and Information Systems (KAIS)

AI Communication

Conference Committee Member:

Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)

Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)

Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)

Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (AACL/IJCNLP)

International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)

AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

Natural Language Processing and Chinese Computing (NLPCC)

Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL)

Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text (W-NUT)

Workshop on Machine Reading for Question Answering (MRQA)

Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics

Volunteering Activities:

Member of Cornell CS Department PhD Admission Committee (Year 2021).

Volunteer for Cornell CS Department PhD Visit Day (Year 2019, 2020, 2021).

Student Volunteer for ACL 2017, ACL 2018, EMNLP 2017.

TALKS Towards More Informed Extraction of Events from Documents

In Rising Stars in Data Science Workshop, University of Chicago, Jan 2021. In Tencent AI Research, Nov 2020.

Event Extraction by Answering (Almost) Natural Question

In UIUC Class Information Extraction and Knowledge Acquisition, UIUC, Sep 2020

LwLL: Progress on the NLP Front

In DARPA site visit (Online), Cornell University, Apr 2020.

Harvesting Paragraph-Level Question-Answer Pairs from Wikipedia

In the 56th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, July 2018.